

REMARKS

Responsive to the Office Action dated March 25, 2005, Applicants provisionally elect, without traverse, Group I, which includes claims 1-36, for further examination on the merits in the present application. Accordingly, claims 37-39 corresponding to Group II are withdrawn.

It is noted that the Office Action, on page 2, states that the claims of either Group I or Group II fall under the same classification, class 705, subclass 26. MPEP § 803 states the following:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

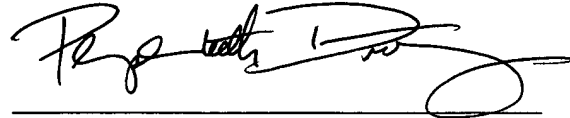
The claims of the present invention, as noted by the Office Action, would appear to be part of the same search area (class 705, subclass 26), thus would not constitute a “serious burden.” Although Applicants elect without traverse, it would seem that examination of all the pending claims 1-39 can be performed, even assuming, *arguendo*, the claims are directed to distinct or independent inventions.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (703) 425-8508 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date



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